

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PONTA 00302 230534Z

15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

OPIC-03 AF-06 SCCT-01 SAJ-01 /071 W

----- 044023

R 222318Z AUG 75

FM AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1240

INFO COMUSFORAZ

AMEMBASSY LISBON

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L PONTA DELGADA 302

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJECT: ANTI-COMMUNIST VIOLENCE IN AZORES

REF: PONTA DELGADA 295, 294

1. WAVE OF ANTI-COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN AZORES HAVE TAKEN LEAP FORWARD SINCE AUGUST 15 THEFT OF DYNAMITE. AUGUST 21 PRESS REPORTS NUMBER OF NON-VIOLENT ANTI-COMMUNIST DEMONSTRATIONS IN TOWNS ON SAO MIGUEL, TERCEIRA AND GRACIOSAIN WHICH LOCAL PCP OFFICES CLOSED AND MATERIALS DESTROYED.

2. THEFT OF DYNAMITE IN SAO MIGUEL RUMORED TO BE WORK OF FLA SUPPORTERS, BLETIERE AND ACCOMPLICE. POLICE SAID TO BE HOT ON BLETIERE'S TRAIL AND ARRESTS ARE EXPECTED. UNNECESSARY THEFT DISTURBED MANY INCLUDING FLA LEADERS.

3. ACTING CIVIL GOVERNOR OVADGRA, DOCTOR MELOALVES, TOLD ME THAT PCP PROVOKED UNARMED DEMONSTRATORS TO BURNDOWN PCP HEADQUARTERS IN ANGRA NIGHT OF AUGUST 17. AFTER PCP MILITANTS THREW MOLOTOV COCKTAILS INTO CROWD, DEMONSTRATORS BECAME ENRAGED, SET FIRE TO PCP HEADQUARTERS, AND WERE READY TO KILL PCP AGITATORS FROM LISBON. AFTER VIOLENCE ERUPTED GOVERNOR WENT TO SCENE TO TRY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PONTA 00302 230534Z

CALM CROWD. HE SAID HE AND FLA LEADERS WERE BARELY ABLE TO SAVE

COMMUNISTS LIVES, GOVERNOR HAD HIS GLASSES BROKEN IN PROCESS. HE AND FLA LEADERS WERE CONCERNED THAT KILLING OF COMMUNISTS WOULD BE REPUGNANT TO MANY AZOREANS AND DESTROY UNITY WHICH NOW EXISTS. GOVERNOR BELIEVES THAT IN THROWING MOLOTOV COCKTAILS AND FIRING AIR RIFLES INTO CROWD PCP MILITANTS WERE FOLLOWING PATTERN EMPLOYED BY PCP IN NORTH OF PORTUGAL IN EFFORT TO GAIN PROTECTION OF MILITARY. GOVERNOR IS DETERMINED COMMUNISTS AGITATORS HE CONSIDERS RESPONSIBLE FOR VIOLENCE BE SENT TO LISBON IMMEDIATELY AND HAS ISSUED PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT TO THAT EFFECT.

4. AFTER DISTRUCTION OF PCP HEADQUARTERS IN PONTA DELGADA AND SACKING OF HEADQUARTERS OFMDP/CDS AND MES, MILITARY COMMAND HAS ISSUED COMMUNIQUE ORDERING SUSPENSION OF PCP ACTIVITIES ON SAO MIGUEL AND DEPARTURE FROM AZORES OF SAME PARTY ACTIVITIES.

5. ONE PPD SOURCE SPECULATED THAT NEXT PHASE WOULD BE REMOVAL OF CONTINENTALS, LEFTISTS OR NOT, FROM IMPORTANT POSITIONS HERE. SOURCE EXPRESSED CONCERN AT DIFFICULTY OF PPD LEADERS IN KEEPING HOT HEADS FROM PERCIPITOUS ACTION.

6. COMMENT: THE PCP, MDP, AND MES FOR ALL PRICTICAL PURPOSES HAVE BEEN FORCED UNDERGROUND ON SAO MIGUAL AND TERCEIRA. AUTHORITIES HAVE EXPELLED PCP MILITANTS BECAUSE THEY FEAR SITUATION HERE IS CLOSE TO BEING OUT OF CONTROL AND THEY FEAR ANY PROVOCATION, INCLUDING THE PRESENCE OF SOME COMMUNIST MILITANTS, WILL TRIGGER VIOLENCE. WE BELIEVE POLITICAL LEADERS, FLA AND PPD, ARE ENCOUNTERING DIFFICULTIES CONTROLLING THEIR FOLLOWERS. DEMONSTRATIONS WHICH LED TO THE BURNING OF THE PCP HEADQUARTERS IN ANGRA AND PONTA DELGADA WERE BOTH PLANNED, BUT THE VIOLENCE WHICH DEVELOPED WAS NOT. THE TENSE SITUATION WHICH NOW EXISTS,HINDICATION OF GOP BAD FAITH, DELAYING ISSUING DECREE TO SET UP JUNTA GOVERNATIVA OR ANY OTHER PROVOCATION, COULD SPARK A MOVE FOR INDEPENDENCE. PFEIFLE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, EXPLOSIVES, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, ANTICOMMUNIST, LIBERATION FRONTS, THEFTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PONTA00302
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750292-0370
From: PONTA DELGADA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750827/aaaaawzn.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 PONTA DELGADA 295, 75 PONTA DELGADA 294
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUN 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <24 DEC 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANTI-COMMUNIST VIOLENCE IN AZORES
TAGS: PINT, PO, FLA, (BLETTIERE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006